

SENATE RESOLUTION 7001 of the First Extraordinary Session

By Bailey

A RESOLUTION to honor Walter C. Stone, Jr., for his  
distinguished military service with the United  
States Army during World War II.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Tennessee have, throughout the years, been called upon to take up arms against the enemies of this great nation, risking their lives and leaving their loved ones behind to honorably safeguard the freedoms and liberties guaranteed to all citizens of these United States and vanquishing those who threaten our way of life; and

WHEREAS, while the heroic deeds of Tennesseans have been extolled throughout the history of our State and nation, the distinguished military service of every proud Tennessean should be illuminated, shared, and properly honored; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Walter C. Stone, Jr., an esteemed veteran of the United States Army and a member of America's Greatest Generation who proudly served his nation with courage and honor during World War II; and

WHEREAS, the son of Walter and Estelle Stone, Walter C. Stone, Jr., graduated from White County High School, where he was an active member of FFA, and was engaged in farming when he entered the United States Army on August 7, 1944; and

WHEREAS, after completing basic training at Camp Wheeler in Georgia, Mr. Stone undertook additional training at Fort McPherson in Georgia and at Fort Meade in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stone's wartime service to our nation included his participation in the Battle of the Bulge as a member of the renowned 84<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, which had been moved in one night to the Ardennes area of Belgium to help stop the German advance into the Allied Line; and

WHEREAS, coupled with the extremely cold weather conditions, the Battle of the Bulge proved to be some of the most bitter fighting of the war; the 84<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division displayed countless acts of courage on the battlefields of Europe, and after 171 days of continuous combat, more than any other American Division in Europe, victory was accomplished; and

WHEREAS, Walter C. Stone, Jr., is an honored recipient of the Bronze Star, European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Ribbon, and the Army Occupation Medal (Germany); and

WHEREAS, after serving in the U.S. Army, Mr. Stone began an esteemed career as a commercial farmer and, in 1972, joined the Tennessee Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to serving the needs of his fellow citizens, he also served with distinction as a member of the White County Commission, White County Parks and Recreation Committee, White County Planning Commission, and the White County Farmers Mutual Insurance Board; and

WHEREAS, while no offering can properly relay our gratitude for his bravery and dedication to preserving the precious freedom that is inseparable from our American heritage and ideals, it is most appropriate that we should honor Walter C. Stone, Jr., to the full extent of our ability, as he has made untold and innumerable sacrifices to preserve the liberties we enjoy today; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend Walter C. Stone, Jr., for his courageous service to our nation as one of Tennessee's most heroic citizens, thank him for his many years of dedicated service to White County and this State, and extend to him our best wishes for success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.